#### LITERATURE

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS. ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS IN PUBLIC AND

PRIVATE, By Henry Cleaveland. American Publishing House, No. 507 Minor street. Our country has produced few more remarkable men than Alexander Hamilton Stephens. A pigmy in stature, weighing only ninety pounds, with a voice that would make an admirable relsetto, and an appearance boyish in the extreme, he possesses an intellect second to none, with an oratorical power not surpassed by any of our living public men, and has a personal popularity not easily accounted for. This remarkable man, after a lifelong devotion to the cause of the Union, acted in a manner so utterly inconsistent, that we can find no palliation unless we accept the absurd theory of a tottering intellect, or the doctrine of a lifelong deception.

His career and character, therefore, are well worth a disinterested examination. But this they do not receive at the hands of Mr. Cleaveland. The author of the work before us is blindly prejudiced in favor of Mr. Stephens. He has placed that statesman on a pinnacle, and expects all to fall down and worship him. He positively carries the feeling of "Jenkinish" interest so far as to describe the pantry of Mr. Stephens' house, the statues in the rooms, and the engravings on the walls. He carries this spirit to such an excess as to make that part of the work which relates to the life of the Vice-President of the Confederacy actually nauseating. The rest of the book is a careful compilation. It is a complete edition of all Mr. Stevens' speeches, and an admirably arranged exposition of his public life.

The resume of a work is no place to pass judgment on the political career of a statesman. We purpose only to speak of the execution of the work. As far as it pretends to originality, we cannot commend it. But that portion which is selected is a valuable contribution to the political history of the past quarter of a century. We can, however, recommend the work because of its excellent typography and capital illustrations and facsimile autograph letters. It is neatly bound, and will probably have an extended sale in the Southern States.

ELEMENTS OF ART CRITICISM. By E. W. Samson, D. D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lip-

It is necessary, in order that the taste of our public be cultivated to a proper appreciation of the fine arts, that standard works of instruction be laid before them. A few days since we had occasion to commend Palgrave's "Essays on Art," and to regret that a large portion of their point was lost because American readers were not familiar with the references. The work before us possesses all the advantages of Palgrave's production, with a thousand improvements, as well as the additional force which is imparted by a familiarity with the schools of which the writer speaks. The work before us is a thorough treatise on the entire subject of art criticism. It commences with the tundamental principles of a correct appreciation of art, and gradually leads the reader from rudiments to the higher departments. The book, taken all together, is the most acceptable of any which has issued from the presses of any American publisher for many months. In the chapter devoted to the narration of the leading works of art, we find the tollowing admirable description of the dome of St.

"The patron Saint of Rome was Peter, who from the time of the baptism of the first Roman convert to Christianity, A. D. 43, to his death, A. D. 68, a period of twenty-live years, was a Jerome says, pre-eminent in esteem among Roman Christians. Not long after his cruci-fixion with his head downward by order of Nero, the spot where he suffered, situated north west and outside of the ancient city, was cav ered by his triends with a small pratorio deal. cated to the apostle's memory. This sunt shrine the Emperor Constantine, A. D. 506 caused to be replaced by a church in the basi-hea style, regardful at once of the memory of the apostle and wisely deferential to the areas tectural taste then prevailing at the seat of his Western Empire. This edition must have been originally a noble one since it stood occasionally renovated, for twelve hundred years, and was a last reductantly sacrificed only when it could not be made to harmonize with the plan or the new structure. Though projected A. D. 1450, the foundations of the new church were not laid till A. D. 1506; eight years after which the original architect Bramente died, leaving his plans for years to incompetent successors.

"About A. D. 1540, Michel Angelo, then in his

seventy-second year, was called to undertak what every artist shrank from; and despite hiwhat every artist shrank from; and despite his Florentine independence in art judgment, and his indominable pride as the world's recognized master in design, an independence upon which no Pope even could dare to trespass, he was entrusted not only with the plans of his prodecessors, but with power to modify them at will. Though brother artists wrote to him, Fly from the ungrateful Babyton which is unable to appreciate your genus. M. Angeto was not the man to yield to ugend or for. He enlarged firm mante's plan, especially for the dome, adding greater length to the transcpt, and giving added strength to the piers which were to support the dome, uttering the memorable declaration, 'I will hang the Pantheon in the Bir.' With yet greater independence he changed the ground-plot from the Roman cross which successive Popes had naturally required for the form of the Greek cross, whose front projection would allow the entire dome to be seen from below. M. Angelo pushed his work on his own pian for seventeen years, until his death at the age of eighty-nine, A. D. 1563, at which time the drum was ready for the dome. Succeeding architects for more than sixty years followed Michel Angelo's plans, except in the extension of the nave so as to make the form that of the Roman eross. It was in A. D. 1626, about one hundred and seventy-dve years after the first design, that the structure was so far completed as to be dedicated; while the circular coloniade was added about forty years still later.

"The length of this immense editice is 6135 feet through the wave and choir; its breadth

through the transcots is 4464 feet, and the height of the celling in the nave is 1521 feet. The breath of the dome at its base on the exterior is 1954 feet; its interior diameter, greatly diminished by the thickness of the double walts composing the dome, is 1394 feet, surpassing that of the Pantheon; the height of the apex of the dome from the pavement is 405 feet; and the elevation of the top of the cross 448 feet, beight never equalled by any human structur in the world save the great Pyramid of Egypt. The vast size of this structure is indicated by the fact that it covers 240,000 square feet, or

about 52 acres of ground; a whole village of mechanics, constantly employed to keep it in repair, living in small huts formed into the parapet on its roof; while the ball which seems to more than four inches in diameter from the ront below easily accommodates eight person-The extreme costliness of the edifice is ma apparent by the mention that the original expense of its construction was nearly \$47,000. 000, while the annual expenditure for its care and preservation is about \$30,000. The impossibility of appreciating at first sight its immense dimensions, as those of the cataract of Niagara, because all is uniformly colossal yet ever grow-ing in vastness and grandeur as the separate details are one after another taken in, is poeti-cally presented thus by Byron:—

Enter; its grandeur overwhelms thes not: And why? it is not lessened; but thy mind, Expanded by the genius of the spot, Has grown colos-al, and can only find A fit abode wherein appear cush rined Thy hopes of immortality."

Dr. Samson has done a good work towards elevating the taste of our people by his valuable contribution. While the chapters devoted to specialties are valuable to artists, the general reader will find the historical and critical portion of the work amply rich enough in lore and common sense to repay a careful study. It is neatly got up by Messrs. Lippincott.

Idalia. By Ouida. Philadelphia: J. B.

Lippincott & Co. This authoress (for it is certain that it is a woman's pen that has contributed so much frivolity to our recent literature) is noticeable only for her prolixity, and in this last work for her want of originality. "Strathmore" was a good book in its execution. "Chandos" was too much like "Strathmore" to be possessed of great merit, but "Idalia" is too much like "Chandos" to claim any merit at all. It is a mild sort of tale of fashionable life, treating of all sorts of impossible characters, and persons of no attraction, except the quality of the kaleidoscope, the ever-shifting scenes it presents. The heroine is an absurdity, the hero ditto, and all the subordinate characters as unlike nature as could be conceived in the wild fantasies of the female

KOBERT SCREENE, A Novel. By W. A. Hammond. Philadel phia: J. B. Lippincott

A pleasantly written flction, rather above the ordinary average, yet not noted for any particular brilliancy. The conversations introduced are natural, which is a great recommendation, but the story itself is hardly sufficiently elaborated to warrant much recommendation. The author will probably, in some future effort, attain a high position as a writer, but the present volume lacks that symmetry which only practice can give,

ANTONIUS: A DRAMATIC POEM. By J. C. Haywood. New York: Hurd & Houghton, The merit first exhibited in "Herodias" is still further developed in "Antonius." While the force of certain passages in the latter fall far beneath that of the former, yet, taking it all together, we think the literary execution of the latter superior to that of the former. Both are old-time tragedies of feudal or obsolete customs. The plot is laid in the days of Gallic warfare; its heroes are of the Roman republic; its Drutdical priests, its Germanic erful interest to the real strength of the tale. written in almost every department of litera-It is handsomely issued by Hurd & Houghton, and is a pleasant resting place in the sea of fiction and ephemeral productions of the

"Leonora."-Mr. Charles J. Lukens, of this city, has undertaken the task of compiling and arranging for publication, in one volume, all the various translations of Berger's "Leonors" that have appeared in different languages, with dates, names of translators, etc. Aside from the intrinsic beauty of the ballad, thus rendered in various tongues, this work is a literary curiosity, as showing the wonderful variety of expression which may be given to the same thought.

THE HOUSE OF E. B. TREAT & Co. aunounce "Farragut and Our Naval Commanders," by J. T. Headley. From the first chapter, we judge that the work will possess considerable merit. It is clearly printed, handsomely illustrated, and written in that plain narrative style which characterizes all the productions of Mr. Headley's pen. As it undertakes to cover a field not yet occupied. it will be an agreeable addition to our literature of the war.

THE OPEN POLAR SEA .- The long promised work of Dr. Hayes, narrating his adventures in the Polar Sea, is at last about to be published. The expedition of which this is the record sailed from the United States, under the command of Dr. Hayes, in the spring of 1860, with the object of reaching and exploring the open Polar Sea. This important geographical question Dr. Hayes has definitely settled. "I have shown," says he, "that the open sea exists." Having reached the shores of the Polar Sea, Dr. Hayes continued his explorations beyond those of his distinguished predecessor, the late Dr. Kane, and he succeeded in planting the American flag upon land, discovered by himself, nearer to the North Pole than any other known land on the globe-pushing his observations as far north as latitude 82 degrees 45 minutes, or within seven and a quarter degrees of the pole. This most northern point of known land was named Cape Union.

The voyage of Dr. Hayes was attended with dangers and embarrassments unusual even for that region of perilous exploration. The vessel of the Expedition (a small schooner of only 133 tons burden) was several times caught in the closing ice-fields, and seriously injured, and was finally so badly crushed as to be little better than a wreck; yet, in spite of these drawbacks, Dr. Hayes ultimately succeeded in his main purpose with sledges. The Expedition returned to the United States in October, 1861. It will account for the delay in publishing this his-

ory or his voyage, that Dr. Hayes was actively engaged in the Medical Department of the army from the period of his return home until some time after the close of the war. Since that period he has been occupied with the preparation of this work, and the elaboration and discussion of his discoveries. The work contains, besides a discussion of the important question of the open Polar Sea, a graphic and complete description of the Greenland ice, including the formation and discharge of those vast floating bodies of ice called icebergs, upon which subject Dr. Hayes has enjoyed greater facilities for investigation than any other explorer-his journeys into the interior of Greenland with that object forming a marked feature in this volume, being of a character previously unknown in Arctic explorations. Indeed, no traveller besides Dr. Hayes has ever succeeded in penetrating into the interior of Greenland over the mer de glace.

From the proof-sheets we select the following paragraph relative to the ferocity of the Esquimaux dogs:-

"Nothing could exceed their ravenous hunger. The ferocity with which they tear into their food exceeds anything that I have ever seen, and nothing escapes their sharp fangs. They eat up their harness if not closely watened, and we are obliged to bring everything made of skin inside the hut. Several of the traces have discovered to the traces have di appeared down their rapacious throats. appeared down their rapacious throats. To add to our embarrassments, Jensen forgot one night to cover over his sledge (Knorr's makes the roof of our hut), and when we went out in the morning, the sledge was torn to pieces, the lashings were all eaten, and the pieces of the sledge were scattered over the snow all around the camp. The brutes tried to tear open our tin meat cans with their wolfish langs, and ate up our extra boots, the last scrap of skin-line that was left, some fur stockings, and made an end of Knorr's scal-skin covered meerschaum pipe, which he had imcrudently hung upon the upstander. Hemp hines now make the sledge lashings and traces, and, as a consequence, the sledges are continually tumbling to pieces, and the traces are constantly breaking. Another dog tore open a seal-skir tobacco-pouch, shook out its contents, and ate it; and another boited our only piece of soap. This looks bad for our future cleanimess, but thirty-two days, at these low temperatures, have worn off the sharp edge of fastidiousness. At first we had always a morning wash with a handful of snow; but latterly we are not so particular, and we shall not grieve over the soap as much as we might have done some weeks ago. The wottish brutes fill the air with the most hideous cries. The spectral pack of the wild Hartz huntsman never split the ear of belated traveller with more awful sounds than those which come from the throats of my wild beasts at this present moment. The wretches would eat us up if we gave them the least chance. Knorr stumbted among the pack yesterday, while feeding them, and had not McDonald pounced upon them on the instant, I believe they would have made a meal of him before he could rise."

-Peterson & Brothers, who have just published Lady Blessington's "Country Quarters," and Colonel Richter Jones' "Quaker Soldier," have received advance sheets of "Woodburn Grange; a Story of English Country Life," by Wm. Howitt, which will immediately be published by Charles W. Wood, Tavistock street, London-who, by-the-way, is a son of the distinguished and popular novelist, Mrs. Henry Wood, author of "East Lynne" Mr. Howitt is the husband of Mary Howitt, poetess and novelist, and joint author of the "Book or the Seasons." He is the ablest savages, and expired customs, all lend a pow- republican writer in England, and has ture—history, politics, spiritualism, poetry polemics, travels, science, and fiction.

> HARPER'S MAGAZINE FOR FABRUARY, 1867,-For sale by Peterson & Brothers and J. B. Lippincott & Co. The following is the

> table of contents of this popular favorite:-Wild Bill; Something about Fishes; Calcutta, the City of Palaces; Old Aunt Matibus—Pari I; A Talk about Talking; Knickerbocker's Visit; The Virginians in Texas; Suruggles for Life; Old Mrs. Hunter; Civil War and Social Benefi-cence; Aunt Sarah's Outfit; New York to Wash-ington; Two Ropes; In a Street Car; My Lost Alice: Couriship and Marriage; Editor's East Chair; Monthly Record of Current Events Editor's Drawer.

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8,258 25

3,950-00

20,000.00

190,900:00

36,660-00

27,681-23

38,923 98

41,549-6

on merchandise generally.
On Stores Owelling Houses, Etc. ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, November 1, 1806. \$110,000 United \*sales 5 Fer Cent. Loan, 120 000 United states 6 Per Cent. Loan. 100 000 United States 7 3 19 Fer cent Loan, Treasury Notes. 125,000 City of Philade phia ix Per cent 54.000 State of Pennsylvania Six Per Cent Loan.
40,000 State of Pennsylvania Five Per Cent Loan.
50,000 State of eaw Jersey 21x Per Cent 20.000 Pennsylvania hai road, let Mort-gase, Six Fer Cent. Bonda. 25.000 Pennsylvania Rai road 2d Mort-rage Six 1 er Cent. Econs. 25.000 Western Fennsylvania Railroad. Six Fer Cent. Bonds (Penna. R. R. gustantees). 7.0: 0 - ta: e of Tennessee - ix Perguent

7.000 ta.e of Tennessee six Perquest

15.000 300 Sharts stock of Germantown
Gast ompany (principal and Interost ... maranteed by the city of
Fhindelin ia).
7.150 145 Sharts stock of remnsylvania
Hadrond Company
5.000 165 Shares Stock of North Penn\$1, vania Haltond Company.
120,000 50 Shares Stock of hadelphia
and southern Mail Steamship
(company)
125,300 Louis on Bonds and Mortgage.
1st Liena, on City Property.

81 645,050 par. Cost. \$1 tap,052 05. Real Estate.
Bulls receivable for insurances 

\$1,407,321 56 "This being a new en the market value 'homas C. frand, 'John C. Davis Edmund A Sonder, 'Theophilus Paulding, John a. Fenrose, James C. Hand, Whitam C. Indwis, Joseph H. Seal George G. 1 ciper, Hugh Crang, "This being a new enterprise, the Par is assumed as Samuel E.Stokes. Samuel E.Stokes,
henry Sloan.
William G. Boulton,
Edward Darungton,
H. Jones Brooke,
Jacob P. Jones,
Jacob P. Jones,
James B. Mor arland,
Joshua P. Fyre.
Spencer Mclivaine,
J. B. Semple Pittsburg
A. B. Bergei,
D. T. Morgar,
" John D. Taylor, THOMAS C. HAND, President, JOHN C. DAVIS, Vice President, 185

# LIVERPOOL AND LONDON GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY

Capital and Assets, \$16,000,000. Invested in United States, \$1,500,000; Total Premiums Received by the Company in 1865, \$4,947,175,

Total Losses Paid in 1865, \$4,018,250; All Lesses promptly adjusted without reference \$

ATWOOD SMITH, General Agent for Pennsylvania

OFFICE, No. 6 Merchants' Exchange

L HCENIX INSURANCE COMPANY OF INCOMPORATED 1884—CHARTER PERPETUAL. No. 224 WALSUI Street, opposite the Exchange, In addition to MARINE and INLAND INSURANCE, the Company mades area loss or damage by FIRE, or illeral terms on buildings, merchandine, mariture, etc., for illeric periods, and permanently on buildings, by deposit of primary. The Company has been in active operation for more than SIA 1 Yl. a Re. during which an losses have been prouptly acquist d and paid.

John L. Riedge, Lawrence Lewis, Jr.
David Lewis,
Eenjamin Etting.
Thomas H. rowers,
c. R. McHenry.
Edmund Lastillon,
Louis C. Norris. John T. Lewis, John T. Lewis, William S. Grant, Echert W. Lenning, D. Clark Wharton, Sanuel Wilcon, Samuel Wilcox, JOHN WUCHERER, President,

I IRE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY.—THE FENNSYLVANIA FLAE INSURANCE COM-FANY-Incorporated 1823—Charter Perpetual—No. 510 Walbul Street, opposite Independence Square. This Company averably known to the community for overforty years, commune to insure against loss or sumage by the on a tible or Frivace Buildings, either permanently of for a limited time. Also on Furniture, tacks of Goods, and Merchandise generally, on liberal terms.

Their Capital together with a arge Surplus Finds, invested in the most careful manner, which or blee them to offer to the insured an undoubted society in the Case Of loss.

Daniel Smith, Jr. Directors.

John Deverenz,
Alexander Belson, Thomas Smith,
Isanc Harieburst, Henry Lewis,
Thomas Robbins J. Gillingham Fell,
Daniel Haddock, Jr.
11d Nikl, Smith, Jr., President,
William G. Chowell, Scerelary. 2305

#### GOVERNMENT SALES.

LARGE SALE OF DAMAGED AND CON-

Assistant Quartesmaster's Office,
No 1159 Girand Street,
Pinitabell para January 19, 1867.

Will be sold at public auction, on account of the United State, at Government Storeho iss, HANO-VEN Street, Piniadelphia, Pa., on FRIDAY, January 25, 1867, at 10 o'cack A. M., and will be continued from a wild day until a late so d, the following named articles of Damaged and Condemned Quartermaster Stores, viz !— Quartermaster Stores, viz :-Anchors, Steamer Castings; Axes. Iron Bars, Garvanized Iron, addle Blankets, Brushes

Asserted from, from Pipe, Lead Pipe, Gas Brackets and Assorted Looks, Saddle Bags, Water Buckets, Comband Leather Chairs Gum and Leather dose, Cooking Hanges and Staves, Heating Stoves, Chairs, Army and Express Was vlincers, Wagon Spokes Spades Wheelbarrows

Jorse Shoes, Harness, Halter and Breast Chains, Wrenches, Haiters and Chains, Whis Whips, Foroes, Wagon Bows, Also a large as ortment of various foots, Felo-graphic Instruments, Brass Cocks, assorted, Iron Bedsteads,

The property must be removed within five (5) days trom day of saie.

Catalogues will be furnished upon application at

Term:—Cash. in Government funds. By order of Byt. Brigadier General GEORGE H. CROSMAN, Assistant Quartermaster-General U. Sa

1 19 5t Capt, and A. Q. M., Byt Maj. U. S. A.

ROBERT SHOEMAKER & CO.

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS. MANUFACTURERS, IMPORTERS, AND DEALERS IN

Paints, Varnishes, and Oils,

No. 201 NORTH VOURTH STREET, 10 24 3m) COR"ER OF SACE